



# THE HUB

## The Rotary Club of Park Cities

Volume 76, Number 21

[www.parkcitiesrotary.org](http://www.parkcitiesrotary.org)

January 17, 2025

*Serving to Make a Difference Since 1948*

### TODAY'S PROGRAM

*Program Chair of the Day: Richard Stanford*



## Thomas Meurer

### The Wild Wild East: From the Cold War to the War on Terrorism

Tom Meurer is a retired senior officer and board director of Hunt Consolidated Inc. HCI is a large international private company controlled by Ray L Hunt that includes oil and gas exploration and production, refining, LNG, Real Estate Development, Electrical Power, Private Equity investments and over 500,000 acres of cattle ranches in Arizona, Utah, Wyoming Montana and Texas. Meurer spent 40 years with Hunt, retiring in 2015.

Additionally Meurer spent 7.5 years working for EDS and specifically Ross Perot and further as a corporate board member or trustee for the Perot family interests from 1989 to 2022. He also, since 1985, worked as a trustee for the Hunt Family trusts.

Also he was a trustee for the Perot Museum and a former board member of the Institute for Mideast Studies in Washington DC.

Today, in addition to his fiduciary work for both families, Tom is a board member for the Insitute for Earth and Man at SMU and some other non business boards. He spends his time with his wife Sharon, traveling, writing, reading, wildlife management farming on their farm east of Dallas, fishing in their place in Maznanita, Oregon and fishing in their place on south Padre Island. His hobbies are fishing , farm chores with proper equipment ,and exercise.

### RCPC IN ACTION

#### RCPC Strategic Planning Session

*from Sarah Oliai*

There will be an RCPC Strategic Planning Session on Saturday, January 25th from 9:00 am to Noon. We will meet in the same location as last year, 12377 Merit Dr, Dallas 75251 in the first-floor conference room.

This meeting is an important annual bench-mark for our club. You have the opportunity to help guide the direction of the Club for the 2025 Rotary Year. All club members are invit-ed, your thoughts are wanted, welcomed and needed.

We will have coffe e, juice, water and light breakfast foods. Please save the date, more information will follow.

**RCPC did not meet  
Friday, January 10,  
due to weather!**

#### Salvation Army Sorting Day

*pictures from Barb Jeffries*

Angel Tree Warehouse Distribution on Saturday, Dec. 14, 11:00am to 1:30pm



***Be a Vibrant and Visionary Model of Service Above Self***

## LAST WEEK (Dec. 13, 2024)

Presiding: PP **Richard Stanford**  
 Invocation/Pledge: **Eric Heitkamp**  
 Photographer: **Ley Waggoner**  
 Speaker: **Oswaldo Alvarenga**, Deputy Chief & Ms. **Jean Laswell**, Director of Campus  
 Program: "**Tour of the Dallas Career Institute North**"

PP **Richard Stanford** called this special meeting at the Dallas Career Institute North. It was located in what was the Walnut Hill Elementary School prior to the tornado of 2019. We were fortunate to be so graciously accommodated by the school during their finals' week.



PP **Richard** mentioned that President **Nolan** was unable to join us today while recovering from an operation. He is doing fine. He also mentioned PP **Karen Farris** and PP **Fred Brown** represented RCPC at the dedication of the Bonton Farms long awaited project kick-off.

**Eric Harrison** made a final appeal for shoes for Soles for Souls. There is still an opportunity to donate and bring your gently worn or new shoes to the Holiday Party.

PP **Ley Waggoner** introduced his guest, his wife, Jan who attended the Walnut Hill Elementary School as a child. Although the façade of the building was maintained in the rebuild, (after the 2019 tornado) everything behind it is new, so it was a nostalgic visit.

PP **Richard** then introduced our DISD host for the meeting, **Oswaldo Alvarenga**. He is the Deputy Chief of Strategic Initiatives for DISD. Mr. Alvarenga handles the Career Institutes' operations. He gave us a brief introduction to the Dallas Career Institute which is a nationally recognized high school offering career tracks for students that are not on the college track. Students have to apply to the high school indicating their desired career track while still in middle school. Once accepted the students attend the campus closest to where they live in Dallas. The school is impressive and of such a high quality, new building, new materials and equipment and advanced specialized instructors following a



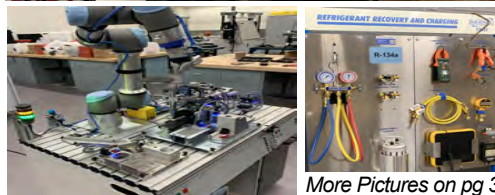
### Please remember

**Cindy Cummings** who had a stroke on Tuesday and surgery on Wednesday. No visits or calls, but cards may be sent to her at Ms. Cindy Cummings, Presbyterian Hospital, Jackson Building Room #348, 8200 Walnut Hill Lane, Dallas, TX 75231  
*Please let us know your joys and concerns.*

*Many thanks to Kathleen Klaviter for these Notes!*

four-year development plan. The graduates can immediately move into full time jobs from plumbing to electrician, to air conditioning/heating, etc. It made me smile as I remembered Home Ec classes. This school's kitchen setup is a full-sized restaurant kitchen where they become chefs and can serve student and faculty events. If you want to be an airplane pilot, they have flight simulators that alert the FAA when in use and graduates are ready for flying lessons in actual planes. There were classes on the business of each profession including entrepreneurship for those designing their own company. They have already had successful student businesses as a result. You left the tour so impressed that Dallas is preparing high school students to transition to successful careers after graduation. It was inspiring. Local companies are discovering the quality of the students and are vying for the graduates. It is all early days, but the program is already being visited by high school systems from Houston to Boston to learn how they can replicate the program. Because of the advanced hands-on training, it has become a business community effort to outfit all the tracks with the latest equipment. There are many companies and foundation grants supporting the school's efforts.

A tour followed this presentation.



More Pictures on pg 3

### Our Mission

Building a legacy of good works and fellowship, we strive to:  
 REACH those in need in partnership with others  
 INSPIRE tomorrow's leaders with high ethical standards  
 FOSTER lives of service above self  
 - A supporting member of Rotary International

The Hub is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Park Cities (Dallas)

Betty Dawson, Editor

Shutterbug Committee

Ley Waggoner, Chair

Bulletin/Internet Advertising

Mark Neace, Interim Chair



### OFFICERS and DIRECTORS 2023-2024

**Nolan Duck**, President

**Sarah Oliai**, President Elect

**Mark Kashar**, Vice President

**Pat Martin**, Secretary

**Vacant**, Treasurer

#### Directors

**Siobhan Abraham**, Membership

**Susan Harris**, Fostering Leadership

**Van Oliver**, Club Operations

**Mark Neace**, Public Image, Marketing, Communications

**Tammy Cowser**, Youth

**Sergio Poppe**, Tackling Hunger

**Holly Hollenbeck**, Fostering Health and Wellness

**Barb Jeffries**, At Large

**Jeff Sheehan**, Immed. Past President

**Herb Hammond**, Sgt-at-Arms

**Richard Gilman**, Parliamentarian

**Laurie Aldredge**, Club Administrator

8350 N. Central Expwy, Ste 1900

Dallas, TX 75206

Office Phone: 469-242-9448

www.parkcitiesrotary.org



**Stephanie Urchick**

Rotary Club of McMurray, PA, USA

President, Rotary International

www.rotary.org

**Regina Edwards**, RC of Carrollton-Farmers Branch

Governor, District 5810

www.rotary5810.org



January						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			M	M	Mtg	
5	M	M	M	M	Mtg	
12	M	M	M	BD	Mtg	
19	M	Mc	M	M	Mtg	SP
26	M	M	M	M	Mtg	

**A=Agape Health Serv Day**

**BD=** Brd of Dirs Mtg, 8am

**BF=**Bonton Farm

**Cn=**PCR Connect Event.

**CP=**ChildsPlay Work Mtg-Jill Jordan.

**D=**District 5810 Event

**DH=**Dentistry with a Heart- Michael Rainwater

**F=Fellowship Event**

**FF=**RCPC Foundation Fund Mtg- Ed Fjordbak

**FT=**NTFB Truck.

**FB=**NTFB Event- Susan Glen

**In=**Interact Special Project 8 am - Tracy Gomes.

**LL=**Legacy of Leadership

**M=** Meals on Wheels, Jim Weichel various days and times

**Mn=** Mentoring at Hillcrest HS various days and times

**Mc=**Ronald McDonald House 1 x/mo-Kathleen Klaviter

**NM=**New Member Event

**Pr=** Program Committee Mtg

**RL=**Readers2Leaders-various days, times- Rob Levy

**Rct=**Rotaract- Ruth Alhaili.

**SP=**Strategic Planning Mtg

**SpE=**Special Service Event

**VA=**Veterans Support



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Jan. 24 **Edward S. Smith**  
Update on the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program



Jan. 31 **Eric Nadel and Ross Fenstermaker**  
The Texas Rangers



Feb. 7 **Robin Marriott**  
Topic TBA



Feb. 14 **Dani Bethune & Darren Woodsen**  
Igniting Change for Future Leaders! How C5 Texas Is Helping Youth To Build Their Own Leadership Path

## ROTARY CONNECTED



<http://bit.ly/RCPCfacebook>



<http://bit.ly/RCPC/linkedin>



<http://bit.ly/RCPC/twitter>



##parkcitiesrotary <http://bit.ly/RCPC/youtube>



<http://bit.ly/RCPC/googleplus>

**Miss a Meeting? Watch it on YouTube or as an event on Facebook!**



<http://bit.ly/RCPC/youtube>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/>

**Share Rotary!** Post on your social media when you're at a meeting or event. Use our hashtags!

**Like and Follow us** on Social Media: Website: <https://parkcitiesrotary.org/>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfParkCities](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfParkCities)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCf4ZH-2nwIscW8XNTnsbnw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf4ZH-2nwIscW8XNTnsbnw)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/park-cities-rotary-club/?viewAsMember=true](http://www.linkedin.com/company/park-cities-rotary-club/?viewAsMember=true)

**Make a post about or while at Rotary and use these hashtags**



#PeopleOfAction



#parkcitiesrotary



#district5810proud



#goodthingshappeneonfridays

## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please note** that RCPC meetings and other events are public events where photos and video are customarily taken. By attending you are consenting to free use of your likeness on RCPC and related websites, social media, streaming video, emails, newsletters and similar methods.

**Have a Great Idea for a Speaker? Your ideas are needed!** Send your ideas with the details to Richard Stanford.

**Help Wanted! At ANY RCPC Event or Project.** Take a few pictures, include a few sentences (who, what, when, where and WHY) and send to Betty for The Hub

**RI Foundation:** \$100 (or more) Every Rotarian Every Year! See Greg Pape.

**RCPC Foundation:** \$100 (or more). See Birthdays below, then Van Oliver.

**Attendance Rule Change.** For those wanting to maintain Perfect Attendance, make-ups may now be completed within a year. RI is no longer tracking attendance.

Like Us! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rotary-Club-of-Park-Cities/115439238516325>

## THOUGHTS ON...

### Adventure

An adventure is only an inconvenience rightly considered. An inconvenience is an adventure wrongly considered. ~ **G. K. Chesterton**

Adventure is just bad planning.

~ **Roald Amundsen**

We owe something to extravagance, for thrift and adventure seldom go hand in hand.

~ **Jennie Jerome Churchill**

Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature.... Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.

~ **Helen Keller**

You must pray that the way be long, full of adventures and experiences.

~ **Constantine Peter Cavafy**

I am not an adventurer by choice but by fate.

~ **Vincent van Gogh**

The most beautiful adventures are not those we go to seek.

~ **Robert Louis Stevenson**

It is only in adventure that some people succeed in knowing themselves - in finding themselves.

~ **Andre Gide**

Marriage is the only adventure open to the cowardly.

~ **Voltaire**

## RCPC IN ACTION (continued from page 1)

### Thank You from Paper for Water

Dear Park Cities Rotary Club,  
We are so grateful for your support this year and all you do for the Thirsty through Paper for Water. Thank you for the love you've shown all year long for people in need around the world.

We hope that your new year is filled with peace and joy! Please enjoy a special thank you video from Isabelle and me at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LM8\\_OV8U1Wg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LM8_OV8U1Wg).

Thank you again for helping us receive such a generous grant and please share with your Rotary members!

Sincerely,  
Katherine Kei Adams  
Co-CEO Paper For Water

## HE WHO LAUGHS, LASTS

A professor was giving a big test. Upon collecting the tests he saw a note attached to one with a \$100 bill under it. The note read, "One dollar per point please." The professor returned the test with \$40 and a note attached. reading, "Here's your \$40 change."

The Hub is printed by

**Minuteman Press**

7010 Greenville 75231 • 214.691.6377

### More Pictures from Dec. 13 Meeting



### Happy Birthday\*

**Doug Gill 1.18**  
**Tom Rhodes 1.19**  
**Sergio Poppe 1.21**  
**Walt Marcum 1.22**  
**Daniel Drabinski 1.23**

\* You are our RCPC Foundation Funders for this month

# Rotary Club of Park Cities Market Place

 <p><b>GRAY REED</b> GRAY REED &amp; MCGRAW, P.C.</p> <p>Board Certified in Civil Trial Law By the Texas Board of Legal Specialization</p> <p><b>Cleve Clinton</b> Shareholder</p> <p>1601 Elm Street Suite 4600 Dallas, Texas 75201</p> <p>P: 214.954.4135 D: 469.320.6032 F: 214.953.1332 cclinton@grayreed.com</p> <p>www.grayreed.com</p>	 <p><b>RICHARDSON TIMBERS, LLC</b> <i>Custom Timbers Since 1960</i></p> <p><b>Lynn O. Surls</b></p>	<p><b>DBG Advisors™</b> Determine, Build – Get Full Value</p> <p><b>Dr. Nolan Duck, CEO</b> M&amp;A Advisor – Board Certified Broker – Real Estate Broker Certified Exit Planning Advisor – Certified Value Builder</p> <p>801 E. Campbell Rd. • Ste 250-L • Richardson, TX 75081 Office 972-200-0991 • Cell 972-358-0321 nolan@dbgadvisors.com • www.dbgadvisors.com</p>
 <p><b>NAVIGATION FINANCIAL GROUP</b></p> <p><b>Happy Franklin, AWMA, CRPS, AAMS, CDFA</b> Wealth Planner</p> <p>15770 North Dallas Parkway, Suite 850, Dallas, TX 75248 D   214.217.5823 • C   214.621.4596 hfranklin@navigationfinancial.com www.navigationfinancial.com • www.happyfranklin.com</p>	 <p><b>People Newspapers</b> Park Cities People • Preston Hollow People</p> <p><b>"THE BEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER IN TEXAS"</b> Serving Park Cities since 1981</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award-winning community news</li> <li>• Best demographics</li> <li>• 100% coverage of the Park Cities</li> </ul> <p>214.739.2244 parkcitiespeople.com An affiliate of </p>	 <p><b>RLG CONSULTING ENGINEERS</b> Where visions meet solutions</p> <p>David M. Goodson, P.E. Stuart &amp; Markussen, P.E. &amp; P.L.L.C.</p> <p>12001 N. Central Expressway, Suite 300, Dallas, TX 75243 (214) 739-8500 • Fax (214) 739-9354 www.rlginc.com</p>
 <p><b>OLIAI LAW FIRM, PLLC</b></p> <p><b>SARAH E. OLIAI</b> Attorney at Law Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law.</p> <p>4521 San Jacinto Dallas, Texas 75204 soliai@oliailawfirm.com</p> <p>214.784.5077 www.estateplandallas.com</p>	 <p><b>SUSAN GLEN</b> SVP Client Relations &amp; Non-Profit Solutions</p> <p>susang@careemp.com 214.908.9981 www.CareerMP.com</p>  <p><i>Proudly a minority &amp; woman owned firm</i></p>	 <p><b>Synclab Media</b> VIDEO MARKETING &amp; CONSULTING synclabmedia.com</p> <p><b>Mark Neace</b> (469) 358-1444 mark@synclabmedia.com</p> <p>@synclabmediastudio   @neace Paul Harris Fellow 2016</p> 
 <p><b>CC YOUNG</b> CELEBRATING 100 YEARS! SERVING SENIORS SINCE 1922</p>	 <p><b>State Farm Sells Life Insurance.</b></p> <p></p> <p>Kathy L. Wall, Agent 214-350-2692 Kathy@KathyLWall.com</p>	 <p><b>Vista Bank</b> MEMBER FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER</p> <p>Putting people first since 1912. vistabank.com</p>
  <p><b>Kyle Marmillion</b> Vice President, Advisor, Partner (512) 470-3297</p>	<p><b>BARBARA BARNEY - REALTOR</b> REALTOR®, MBA FROM SMU COX SCHOOL OF BUSINESS - REAL ESTATE AND FINANCE</p> <p><b>Allie Beth Allman &amp; Associates</b> A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY AFFILIATE</p> <p>469.371.7777 cell 469.371.7777 direct barbara.barney@alliebeth.com</p> <p><b>DEGREE in INTERIOR DESIGN</b></p>	<p><b>Jason Graves</b> 214.404.7787</p> <p> jason.graves@alliebeth.com  jasonindallas.com  jasongravesrealtor</p> <p><b>Allie Beth Allman &amp; Associates</b> A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY AFFILIATE</p> 
 <p><b>BRANDED PACKAGING MADE EASY.</b></p> <p>WWW.PACKAGINGPLUSUSA.COM</p>		
	<p><i>Thank you to all our Marketplace Advertisers</i></p> <p>We have spots available for the 2024-25 Rotary Year.</p> <p>Purchase at the RCPC website "store" or with a check. Cost of the ad will be prorated during the year.</p> <p>To change or update your ad, send an updated digital Business Card to <a href="mailto:bedawson@swbell.net">bedawson@swbell.net</a> and to <a href="mailto:kyle.marmillion@protonmail.com">kyle.marmillion@protonmail.com</a>.</p> <p>Questions? Ask Mark Neace at <a href="mailto:mark@synclabmedia.com">mark@synclabmedia.com</a></p>	